

PROJECT FINAL REPORT

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¹ The home page of the website should contain the generic European flag and the FP7 logo which are available in electronic format at the Europa website (logo of the European flag: http://europa.eu/abc/symbols/emblem/index_en.htm logo of the 7th FP: http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm?pg=logos). The area of activity of the project should also be mentioned.

1. Final publishable summary report

• Executive summary

The ERA-NET RURAGRI started on the 1st October 2009 and run until 31st March 2014. While the challenges and issues are mostly common, and despite of the historical coordination at the EU level for agricultural and rural development policies, research on agriculture and rural development is mostly carried out at a national level and remains fragmented. Without central coordination, rural development research will remain fragmented with duplication of efforts in some areas and insufficient data in others. The RURAGRI project is set to change this situation. Research funding bodies (24 partners) from 20 European member states and associated agreed to establish a strong network, pooling European academic and economic resources in order to enhance co-ordination and co-operation between national research programmes and to identify and support new research fields. In doing so, RURAGRI can potentially uncover the best ways to balance the various demands on the rural environment in the context of continued urbanisation.

Increased urbanisation was a major anthropological feature of the 20th Century, and the pace of change seems to be increasing in the 21st. According to statistics released by the European Environment Agency (EEA), the growth of urban areas and associated infrastructure throughout Europe consumed more than 8,000 km² between 1990 and 2000, equating to a 5.4 per cent increase. Most recent statistics suggest that approximately 75 per cent of the population of Europe now live in urban areas. The increasing development of the urban environment forces us to reconsider the very concepts of ‘urban’, ‘rural’ and ‘natural’. If governments are the arbiters of different and often conflicting land uses, material wealth and environmental sustainability, their judgement is reliant on a thorough understanding of these links with land use. Research into land use interactions constitutes an integral part of the briefs that inform government policies on sustainable development. Any policy that impacts on EU Member States, such as the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), requires a Europe-wide approach to research, particularly as the expansion of the EU increases the diversity of different urban and rural environments.

By developing a strategic research agenda (SRA), RURAGRI has identified three ‘cross-cutting’ issues that should be addressed by any research carried out under its banner: diversity, rural-urban relationships and governance. This first issue is particularly noteworthy as it requires research to acknowledge the high level of diversity within the European landscape in its analysis of rural and agricultural challenges. Similarly, a thematic emphasis on understanding rural-urban relationships ensures that decision makers will understand agriculture and rural development within the wider socioeconomic contexts of capital, knowledge and material flow. Finally, placing a stress on governance, RURAGRI’s SRA ensures that research informs innovations in governance which promote sustainable development.

The SRA guidelines also require research to encompass at least two of three research priorities. These include ecosystem services and public goods, socioeconomic development in rural areas, and land use and management (eg. mediating the conflict between food and fuel production targets and promoting biodiversity). As well as addressing multiple research priorities, projects must also comprise at least three independent entities in partnerships from three different participating European countries to receive funding; this ensures that research is both interdisciplinary and truly international. RURAGRI put out a first call for research proposals. In September 2013, after thorough and confidential assessment by an international team of peer reviewers, and following a rigorous shortlisting process, RURAGRI funded five projects for about 7.5 M€, involving a scientific cooperation of a dozen countries. The five selected projects are: MULTAGRI, MERIT, TASTE, TRUSTEE, RETHINK..

During the closing conference and launched the individual projects with a kick-off meeting were launched in September 2013. So RURAGRI has set the foundation stone for transnational research into agricultural and rural development on a European scale. It is expected that the interdisciplinary and international approach fostered by RURAGRI will now result in exhaustive data collection and dissemination, enriching the academic specialism whilst feeding positively into rural development policy.

- **Summary description of project context and objectives**

Political context and objectives

RURAGRI addresses the urgent need for a better understanding of new interactions between agriculture and other land uses in order to reach sustainable development. Observing, analysing and characterising how spatial dynamics triggered by urban development are changing agriculture is crucial to understand the spatial dimension of sustainable development, within the diverse EU regions and between them at the European scale. This European approach will largely benefit from understanding the institutional and governance approaches necessary to optimize land use and support strengthening existing and future territorial resources, in order to contribute to sustainable development.

The boundaries between rural and urban are constantly being redefined. Increased urbanisation was a major anthropological feature of the 20th Century, and the pace of change seems to be increasing in the 21st. According to statistics released by the European Environment Agency (EEA), the growth of urban areas and associated infrastructure throughout Europe consumed more than 8,000 km² between 1990 and 2000, equating to a 5.4 per cent increase. Most recent statistics suggest that approximately 75 per cent of the population of Europe now live in urban areas. The boundaries between rural and urban are constantly being redefined but without a central European research initiative the insights that inform European rural development policy cannot meet their full potential. The increasing development of the urban environment forces us to reconsider the very concepts of ‘urban’, ‘rural’ and ‘natural’.

Rural areas, defined as predominantly rural and intermediate regions, represent a majority of the territory (91%) and the population (59%) across Europe. Social and economic progress in these areas, or rural development, is of vital importance for large parts of Europe and an influential policy area. Besides farming and forestry as main land uses, the development of rural communities and the management of natural resources and landscapes are essential for regional development, territorial cohesion and sustainable development.

Throughout Europe, the strong urban movement leads to increased requirement for improved connectivity between urban and rural areas. The geographic, economic and human dynamics of all European rural areas is increasingly influenced by urban development, i.e. urban or semi-urban economic activities, infrastructures and habitat, patterns of human and material flows, etc.

The increasing development of the urban environment forces us to reconsider the very concepts of ‘urban’, ‘rural’ and ‘natural’. If governments are the arbiters of different and often conflicting land uses, material wealth and environmental sustainability, their judgement is reliant on a thorough understanding of these links with land use. The process of urbanisation has radical direct and indirect impacts on the geographic, economic and social dynamics of rural areas, particularly where population growth puts great pressure on local and regional infrastructure. Roads must be built and maintained, shopping centres established and waste removal networks expanded to service the needs of a burgeoning population. For the growing urban and suburban infrastructure to develop sustainably, adequate and well-informed planning is necessary.

The overarching framework guiding policy development within the EU is contained within the *Europe 2020* strategy. Unsurprisingly, as the primary policy effecting rural areas, the EU Commission proposals on the future Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), draws directly from the *Europe 2020* objectives emphasising the need for smart, green and inclusive development. Closer reading of the Commission proposals points to the objective of territorial cohesion or ‘balanced territorial development’ as one of the main references underscoring the targets of Rural Development Policy. In order to contribute to this goal the Commission proposals aim to stimulate economic development, by valorising ‘rural potential’. Potential is generally defined as the capacity – incorporating physical, natural and human capacity – that can contribute to economic development. While it is envisaged that potential is activated within each region, an element of a region’s potential is determined by how it integrates into wider spaces of production. As a consequence, social and economic development driven

by interconnections with other places facilitates endogenous development thereby contributing to greater interaction with other places and, hence, increased territorial cohesion.

Research into land use interactions constitutes an integral part of the briefs that inform government policies on sustainable development. Any policy that impacts on EU Member States, such as the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), therefore requires a Europe-wide approach to research, particularly as the expansion of the EU increases the diversity of different urban and rural environments. However, without central coordination, rural development research will remain fragmented with duplication of efforts in some areas and insufficient data in others.

The reorientation of agriculture towards improved ecological practices, the economic viability of rural areas and their contribution to sustainable development set new issues for policy making as well as research.

The aim, objectives and approach developed by RURAGRI is framed by and will contribute to the *Europe 2020* strategy goals of smart, green and inclusive growth. Greater cooperation between partners will result in smart targeting of key issues confronting different types of rural areas. Enhanced coordination between national research programmes will identify critical knowledge gaps and foster the development of transdisciplinary approaches that are fundamental if the multi-dimensional challenges of sustainable development are to be successfully overcome.

Finally, by recognising the territorial embedded nature of social, economic and ecological linkages implicit in agricultural practices RURAGRI seeks to strengthen integrated development within and between regions, both rural and urban, and hence contribute to territorial cohesion.

Research context: scientific and methodological objectives

The ERA-NET RURAGRI was established with the objective of fostering co-ordination and co-operation between national research programmes concerned with the interrelated issues of agricultural development, rural development and sustainable development. While the challenges and issues are mostly common, and despite of the historical coordination at the EU level for agricultural and rural development policies, research on agriculture and rural development is mostly carried out at a national level and remains fragmented. Research funding bodies from 20 European member states and associated countries have decided to set up an ERA-Net in order to develop a lasting focused network that identify and open new research fields. They wanted to work towards a common research agenda and to coordinate research funding to enhance coordination of research in the field of agriculture and rural development.

RURAGRI aims, through enhanced cooperation between 20 partner countries and greater coordination of their national research programmes, to better understand the processes shaping interactions between agricultural production, other rural land uses and the broader rural economy. This goal reflects the increasing orientation of agriculture policy towards improving ecological practices and the provision of public goods, supporting the economic viability of rural areas and contributing to sustainable development. The approach adopted by the Network recognises the diversity of rural areas in Europe in terms of their opportunities, challenges and potential. This perspective also accepts that the economic and social dynamics of rural areas are increasingly influenced by interrelations between places, particularly those linking urban and rural areas.

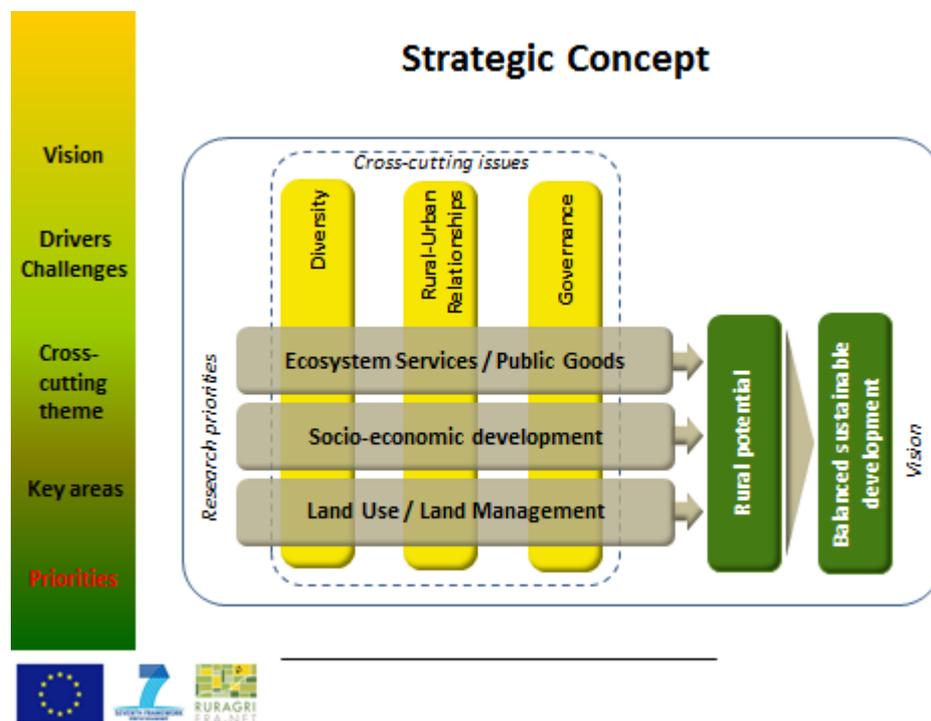
RURAGRI explores emerging topics for research and aims to initiate research not yet envisaged in the field of agriculture and sustainable development in the context of rural development. Agricultural research has to be integrated with research on other land use sectors to fully cover territorial processes and rural areas in their environmental, social and economic interactions. The geographic, economic and human dynamics of rural areas is increasingly influenced by urban development. Therefore, the strong urban movement leads to increased requirement for improved connectivity between urban and rural areas throughout Europe.

By identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities with regard to ERA-Net partners' existing research programs, working towards a common research agenda, implementing joint activities and coordinating European countries' research funding, RURAGRI wanted to be a crucial instrument of coordination of transnational research.

It intended to contribute to generate and support the process of developing shared visions, approaches and concepts with regard to sustainable agricultural systems and practices in a rural development context. The project was to build an essential European common knowledge-base to support decision-making and policy elaboration processes, in order to address common European challenges for sustainable European agriculture in an evolving rural context.

One of the primary means to improve coordination of research in the field of agriculture, rural development and sustainable development, is the mapping of the existing research programs in these scientific fields, in order to characterise their main features and identify key differences. Based on the understanding of rural potential the three cross cutting issues have been additionally identified as core reference to any research in the field of RURAGRI:

- *Diversity*: rural areas in Europe are highly socially, culturally, environmentally and economically diverse.
- *Rural-urban relationships*: strengthening linkages between urban and rural areas is key to enhance territorial cohesion at EU, national and regional scales.
- *Governance*: innovations in governance are considered to be crucial to enable current and future transition of rural areas in order to achieve balanced regional development.



The first issue is particularly noteworthy as it requires research to acknowledge the high level of diversity within the European landscape in its analysis of rural and agricultural challenges. Similarly, a thematic emphasis on understanding rural-urban relationships ensures that decision makers will understand agriculture and rural development within the wider socioeconomic contexts of capital, knowledge and material flow. Finally, placing a stress on governance, RURAGRI's SRA ensures that research informs innovations in governance which promote sustainable development.

As well as addressing multiple research priorities, projects must also comprise at least three independent entities in partnerships from three different participating European countries to receive funding; this ensures that research is both interdisciplinary and truly international. The joint call guidelines also require research to encompass at least two of three key research priorities:

a) Ecosystem Services / Public Goods: e.g. the scarcities and provisioning of resources.

Research should consider different rural areas, the development of governance systems.

- Identify the various types and quality
- Improve monitoring systems to ensure their sustainability
- Enhance methods measuring the value on spatial and temporal scales for monitoring and impact assessment
- Increase understanding of how to achieve mutual benefits between economic development in rural areas and the delivery of public goods

b) Socio-economic development: e.g. the economic and social activities in the rural areas and the valorization of resources.

Research should consider different rural areas, diversity of urban-rural relationships, mechanisms of interaction between and coordination of sectoral policies.

- Explore economic activities, public and private services, provision of infrastructure and technology
- Identify barriers that hinder innovation
- Potential for specialisation and/or diversification in agriculture
- Assess the reasons for migration and the impacts
- Assess and evaluate the implications of mobility and commuting

c) Land use / Land Management: e.g. conflicting targets in production vs. maintaining biodiversity or production of food and feed vs. production of bioenergy.

Research should consider different rural areas, consumer perspectives, concepts linking multifunctionality, ecosystem services and public goods.

- Explore and evaluate innovative land use and management practices
- Identify and explore novel resource efficient networks
- Assess multifunctionality of agriculture
- Assess land use implications of new paradigms

RURAGRI identified potential synergies between consortium partner countries to improve their research capacity and established appropriate governance and financial mechanisms which would enhance the initiation and implementation of a common transnational research programme. Regarding the joint transnational Call and the international peer review process for the submitted proposals, two main basic requirements of proposals were:

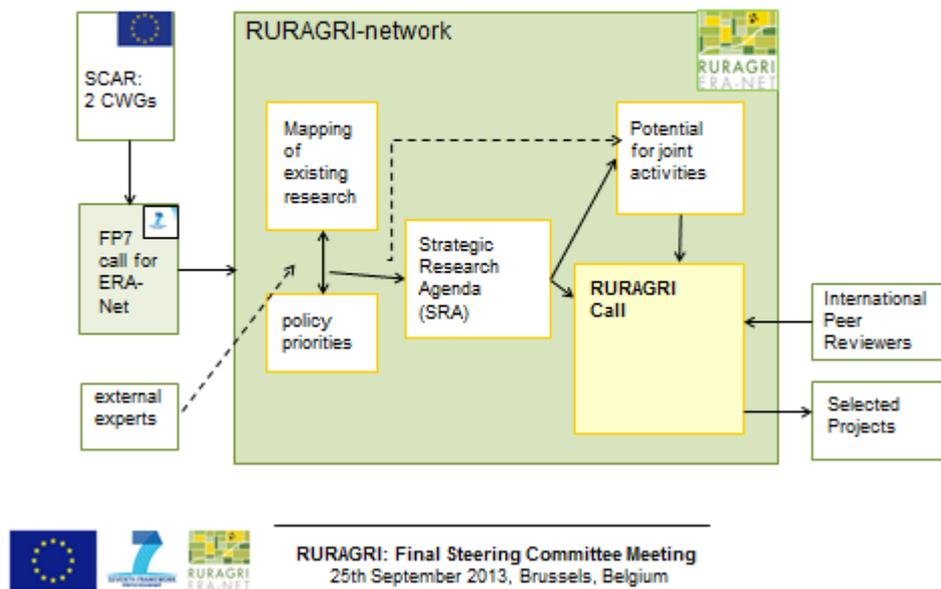
- Each proposal needs to be focused on an *interdisciplinary approach* and should include trans-disciplinary activities.
- In order to assure the European relevance of the research, it is essential that the proposal places the case study area(s) within the European framework.

The main criteria for eligible Consortia

- Cross-sectional approach: in order to enhance an inter-disciplinary focus, research projects shall combine at least two topics of research within the three key areas (or research priorities) mentioned in the Call Announcement.
- Trans-nationality: each research consortium must be transnational and consist of a minimum of 3 independent legal entities in partnerships from 3 different European participant countries.

- **Description of the foregrounds**

RURAGRI started on the 1st October 2009. It was created thanks to the major influence and support of the SCAR committee to the Member States and the Commission (foresight activity and reflection on research priority setting at the European level). Two lines of inspiration contributed to the project RURAGRI, according to the two SCAR Collaborative Working Group that merged to elaborate its proposal in response to the call of the Commission: (i) the contribution of agriculture to sustainable development and (ii) rural development, moving in turn from a systemic approach to a local one.



RURAGRI: Final Steering Committee Meeting
25th September 2013, Brussels, Belgium

Since the beginning, the main idea was to create strong cooperation in the consortium as a whole. 24 organisations from 20 EU Member States and Associated Countries joined the ERA-Net RURAGRI. From the start, the consortium agreed on some success factors such as: a clear vision in common, dedicated people at all levels, a strong coordination secretariat, an external communication and dissemination strategy. The scope of the project and the planning of RURAGRI activities were set in 2009, but it was decided that they would be even more specific along the way. In addition, RURAGRI has built a user-friendly website that makes all relevant.

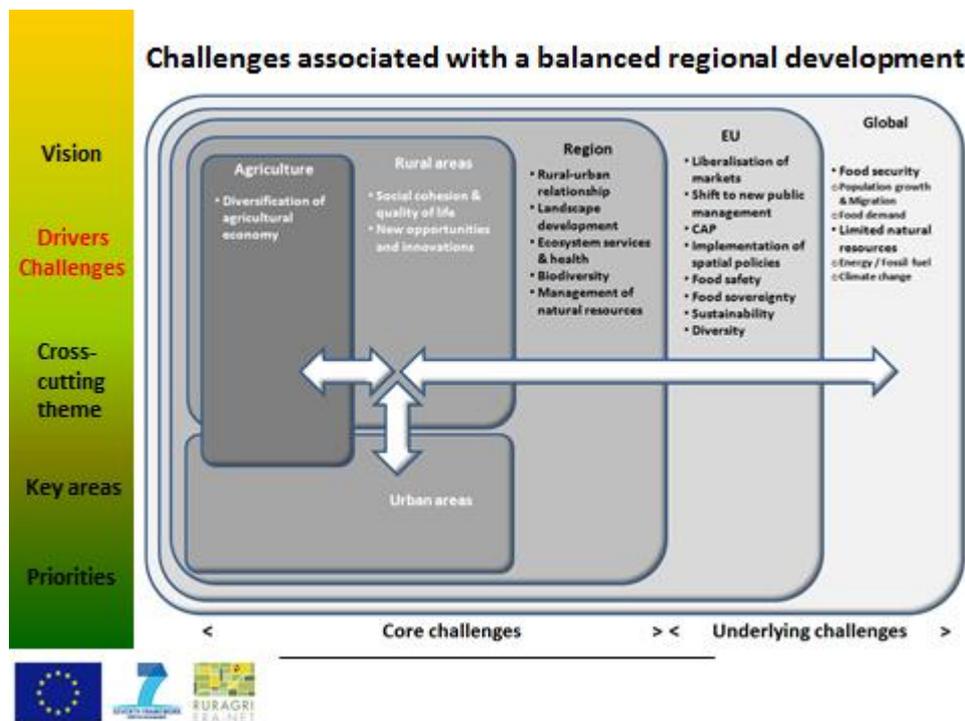
A. The first concrete step was a mapping of existing research and information exchange oriented towards a future joint activity.

Reports from 20 countries (Deliverable D2.1) were elaborated for internal purposes. In addition, a synthesis report of the WP2 mapping was published in 2011 and is available in the public area of the website (<https://www.ruragri-era.net/results>).

The mapping exercise of RURAGRI was mainly performed to understand:

- the principle funding mechanisms in the partner countries;
- the core expertise and the strengths of the partners involved in RURAGRI;
- the main interests in future joint activities and thematic topics of RURAGRI partners.

On the basis of the Mapping of existing research performed by RURAGRI partners and drawing on a review of a number of recently published foresight initiatives key drivers, trends and challenges confronting agricultural development and rural areas have been identified by the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA). A distinction has been drawn between underlying challenges (e.g. food security, climate change, sustainable energy production) and core challenges (e.g. competitiveness, social cohesion and quality of life in rural areas, sustainable use of natural resources).



B. The second step was the development of a common Strategic Research Agenda (SRA, Deliverable D3.2).

The RURAGRI SRA is available in the public area under the website (<https://www.ruragri-era.net/results>).

The development of a common, mutually agreed SRA was considered to be one of the major, crucial tasks of the ERA-Net. This Strategic Research Agenda had been developed by RURAGRI Work Package 3 under the lead of FORMAS (Sweden) and FOAG (Switzerland) in close interaction with the Management Committee of RURAGRI and in cooperation with the RURAGRI Expert Panel. It was developed and discussed in an interactive process with different milestones, such as: a workshop in The Hague (The Netherlands) in March 2011 (end of Reporting Period 1) with the RURAGRI Expert panel, a discussion on research priorities at the RURAGRI Steering Committee Meeting in Zürich (Switzerland) in June 2011, finalised during an intensive workshop of a Working Group Meeting in Stockholm (Sweden) in January 2012, and approved by the RURAGRI Steering Committee in April 2012. The SRA was considered to be the major basis for the development of the RURAGRI call.

The approach concerning the Strategic Research Agenda of RURAGRI was reflected concerning drivers, challenges and research needs during a stakeholder workshop in The Hague (March 2011). The

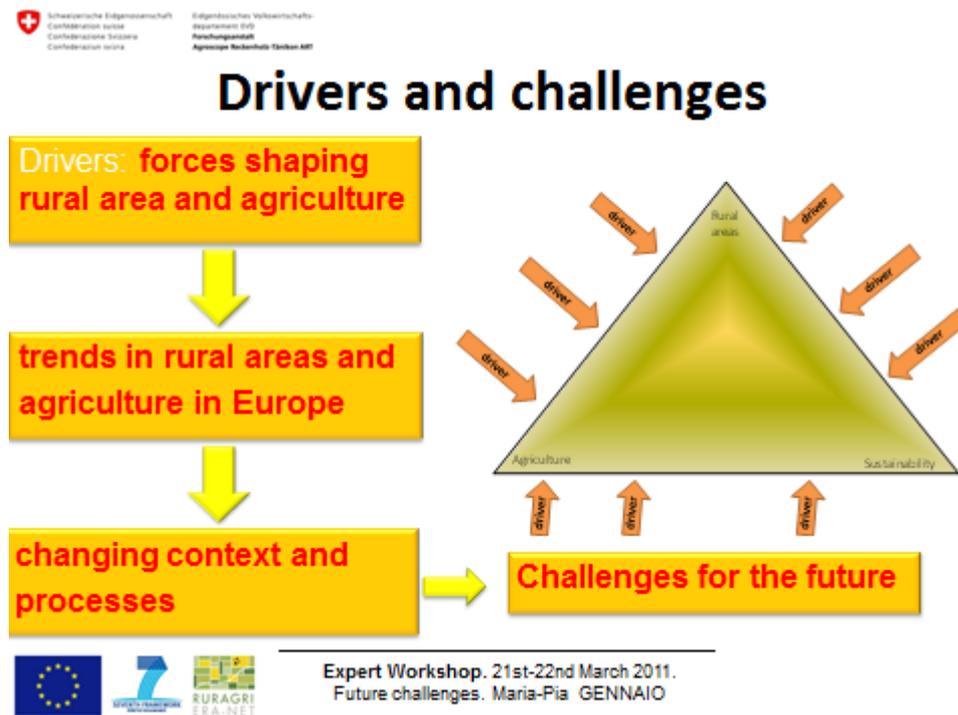
Expert Panel consisted out both nationally nominated Experts (nominated by the RURAGRI partners) and Experts that were individually invited by the Coordinator of RURAGRI. The latter group mainly consisted of Experts from the European level. This panel heavily contributed to widening the expertise and knowledge in the RURAGRI fields of research and policy. This is precisely why we needed experts' comments: to go on narrowing the scope of RURAGRI and to help us set new issues for policy making as well as research. They have been asked to debate about these set of questions:

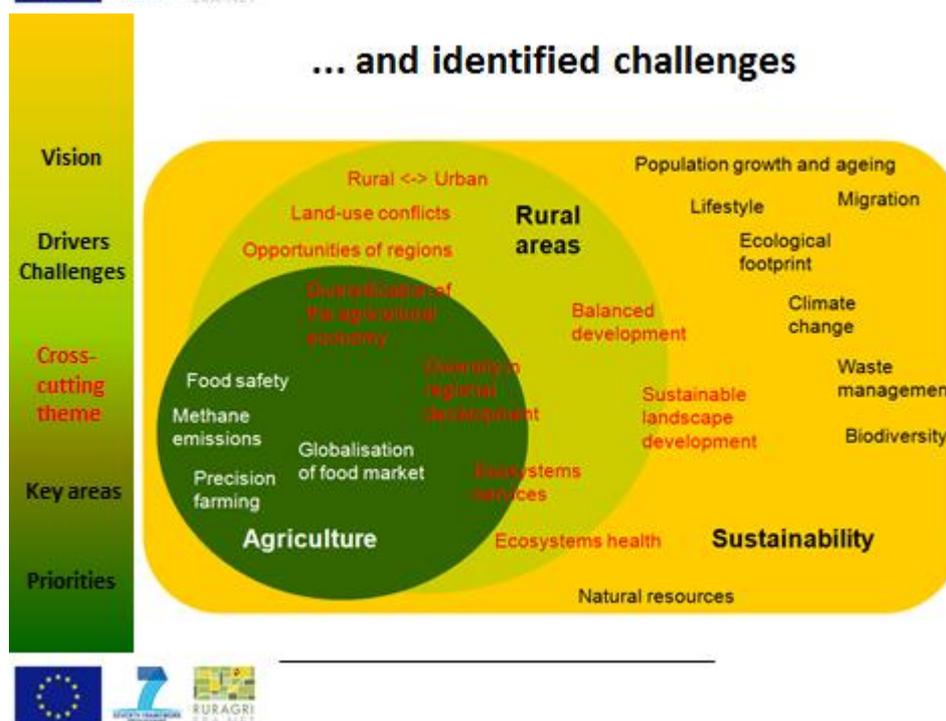
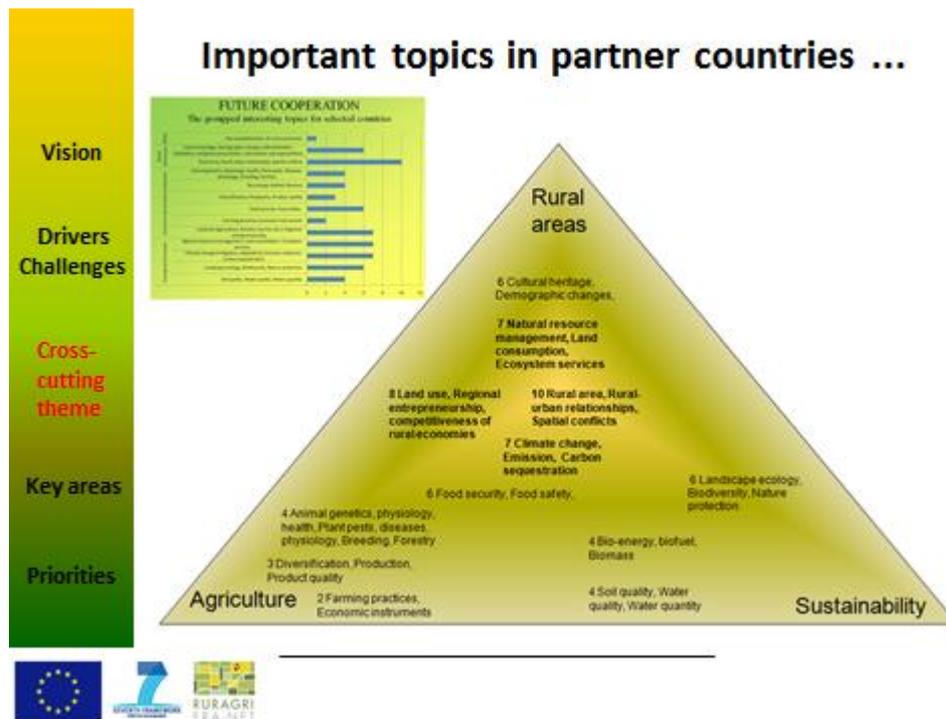
Which is the main target of the RURAGRI SRA?

What are the future challenges, regarding this main target?

Which measures could tackle these challenges?

Which scientific research is needed for these selected measures?





From the feedback that the Coordinator received during various presentations and the feedback the RURAGRI ERA-Net received during the closing conference of the ERA-Net in Brussels (24th Sept 2013) it can be stated that the SRA was used to shape other documents, among others it had some influence of the development of the Work Programme of Horizont 2020, especially for the Societal challenge 2.

C. The third step comprised the provision of relevant information on (work within WP4):

a) Priority research topics of interest to the RURAGRI Partners.

The results of this activity are available at the public area under the website (<https://www.ruragri-era.net/results>) as a distinct chapter under “WP4 Final reports”.

It dealt with the Mapping of the research priorities against the background of the strategic framework developed in the SRA. A survey was undertaken among RURAGRI partners in order to assess the results of this exercise and identify key research topics associated with the priority research areas. This activity was co-ordinated with WP5 to facilitate collection of information from partners on their willingness to fund research in priority areas. *Deliverable 4.1* contains the methodology and main results of the above-mentioned survey.

- b) Currently uncovered transdisciplinary topics of research.

The results of this activity are available at the public area of the website (<https://www.ruragri-era.net/results>) as a distinct chapter under “WP4 Final reports”. The objective was to identify, within the context of the RURAGRI strategic framework, critical knowledge gaps. An overview of previous and on-going research was undertaken through published materials with the use of a scientific database.

The focus of this work was on the identification of specific transdisciplinary research questions considering the “new relationships between rural areas and agriculture to face sustainability” (*Deliverable 4.2*).

- c) Identification of a suitable typology of rural areas that would facilitate enhanced co-ordination and cooperation.

The results of this activity are available at the public area under the website (<https://www.ruragri-era.net/results>) as a distinct chapter under “WP4 Final reports”. In a separate document the role of spatial typologies regarding their potential impact to the RURAGRI call is described. This document is also available on the RURAGRI website (<https://www.ruragri-era.net/results>).

This objective was to address the importance of the spatial approach for the identification of relevant issues in the European framework bearing in mind territorial differences. The purpose of this work was not to develop a new rural typology but to identify one or more existing typologies that describe particular spatial differences for the 3 targeted priority areas: ecosystems and public goods, socioeconomics in rural areas, and land use management.

The aim of *Deliverable 4.3* was to facilitate enhanced co-operation and co-ordination of research between RURAGRI Partners by identifying regions across the EU that are faced with similar challenges and opportunities. Significant effort was dedicated to this task in terms of identifying and evaluating existing spatial typologies.

A key issue confronting transnational research, from the perspective of funding agencies and policy makers is to understand the role of place in differentiated spatial outcomes to common processes and the resulting implications for policy initiatives. Spatial typologies are useful to ERA Networks in that they can support the identification of areas across the EU confronting similar challenges which can inform the activities of research funding agencies thereby facilitating enhanced international research co-operation and collaboration. As typologies classify areas in accordance with selected indicators they are also useful in evaluating whether research is being undertaken

within similar socio-spatial or environmental contexts. This, of course, has implications with regard to the transferability of research findings between places.

The research undertaken sought to explore the potential of spatial typologies to support enhanced research co-ordination and co-operation within the EU. The work considered the evolution of spatial typologies within the European context, identified a typology selection framework and the implementation of this framework vis-à-vis the identification and selection of typologies relevant to the work of the RURAGRI ERA Network. Altogether, 46 typologies were screened concerning their potential recommendation for transnational research supported by the RURAGRI ERA-Net. There is no single typology that can be considered perfect. Several of the typologies could be applied by researchers engaged in international comparative research, such as that envisaged within the RURAGRI Call. Two typologies that could inform the development of research associated with the RURAGRI research priorities have been identified as most suitable:

- typology to assist research on Ecosystem goods and public services and land use management (EU-LUPA's Land Use Functions) and
- assisting research on Socio-economic development (The EDORA Structural typology).

Project proposals answering the RURAGRI call were expected to describe their relevance with regard in relation to the spatial differentiation of rural areas. In this regard, the spatial typologies identified by RURAGRI as suitable could be used as reference.

D. The fourth step was to launch joint transnational Call (*Deliverable 5.1*) among 16 countries in September 2012.

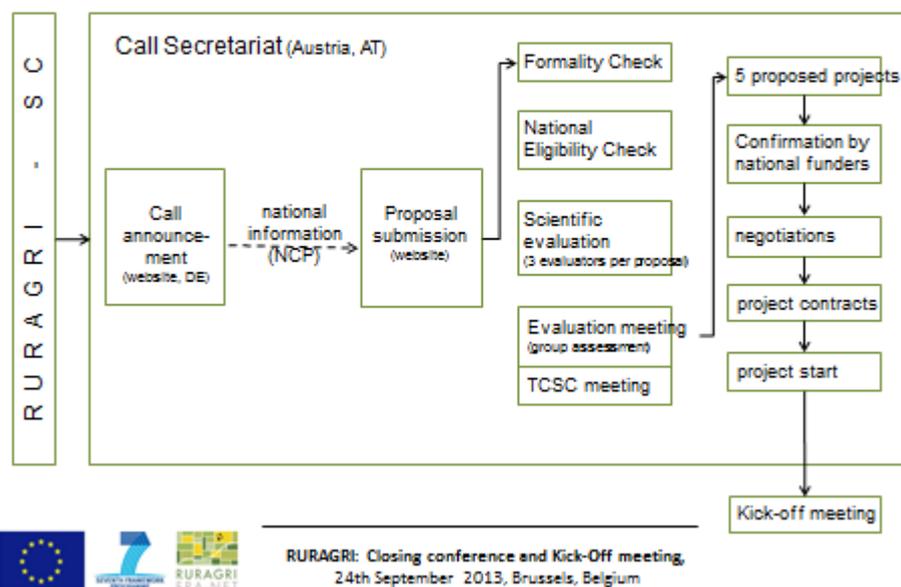
The texts of the RURAGRI Call as well as the "Guidelines for Applicants" are available at the public area of the website (<https://www.ruragri-era.net/results>).

On the basis of the Strategic Research Agenda and the evaluation of the joint activities in WP4, RURAGRI developed a trans-national research programme. The RURAGRI Steering Committee identified three cross-cutting issues as core reference to any research in the field of RURAGRI: Diversity, Rural-urban relationships, Governance. In addition, it was agreed that all RURAGRI Research projects would integrate at least two of the following three research priorities: Ecosystem Services/Public Goods, Socio-Economic Development, Land Use and Land Management.

The call announcement was distributed widely, including different ERA-Net internet portals, supporting national announcements etc. In this period a high number of inquiries (about 40 substantial inquiries) had to be answered by the Call Secretariat. Main interest was in the partnerships and organization of consortia eligible in the RURAGRI call, funding rules and links to national funding organizations, as well as research focus highlighted in the Call.

Within this call 33 Proposals were submitted until the deadline 30th November 2012, with an amount of funding requested of more than 30 Mio Euro. This is about four times the available budget for funding under the RURAGRI call. The high participation rate and the great interest shown in the frequent inquiries reveal the relevance of the research topics of the call.

Call procedure



All proposals fulfilling the criteria of formality check (undertaken by the RURAGRI Call Secretariat - CS) and eligibility check for national funding (carried out by the Transnational Call Steering Committee - TCSC) underwent scientific evaluation. Proposals were evaluated for meeting the aim of the call, were of high scientific quality and represented new or novelty approaches to the issues considered by the research proposal. Proposals had to be trans-disciplinary in approach and deliver European added value. Further criteria of evaluation were the quality of their management plans, dissemination plans and feasibility of the proposals.

In preparation of the evaluation a sufficiently high number of internationally recognized scientific experts (more than 40 experts) were nominated by the TCSC members as potential peer reviewers of project proposals.

Based on the expert list the RURAGRI TCSC coordinator, supported by the SC selected appropriate experts qualified for the respective proposals. The selection process of experts was highly complex as important aspects were the requirement to avoid any conflict of interests, to attribute proposals according to personal thematic experience and to select evaluators for proposals that didn't include partners of the evaluator's country. Due to several experts from countries that did not participate in the Call these selection principles were achieved. The selection provided for each proposal 3 independent scientific experts from the expert databank and assigned a maximum of 5 proposals to each of them.

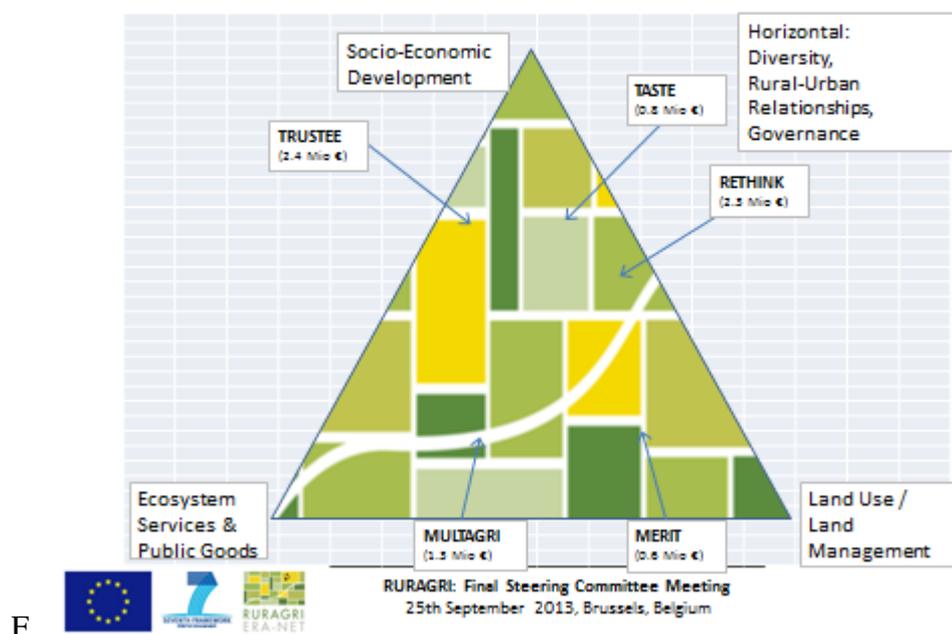
The evaluation process itself was carried out in two steps. In the first step the international peer reviewers had to provide their individual assessment of the proposals. The second step involved the meeting of peer reviewers and comparative assessment of all the research proposals submitted in the call. In the Evaluation Expert Meeting the peer reviewers first met within each proposal group (3 evaluators dealing with the same proposals discussed and agreed on a common proposal assessment) and then participated in the plenary discussion of the EEC meeting (February 2013, Madrid, Spain). The discussion at that meeting was aimed at providing a ranked list of proposals as an input to the subsequent TCSC Meeting which was targeted at finding a consensus on the selection of projects to be proposed for funding within the RURAGRI call.

As several of the proposals included quite large consortia and the some countries were represented in most of the high-ranking proposals the discussion and selection process had to take account of the

feasibility of funding among the various RURAGRI partners. The final result could achieve a satisfying selection for almost all involved RURAGRI partners, and could address a great portion of the available RURAGRI funding possibilities. Based on the scientific evaluation and proposal ranking, and considering the available funding and policy needs, the TCSC finally decided on the recommendation for funding of 5 projects. The estimated total budget for the RURAGRI Call was approx. €8 million.

However, several countries are either not at all involved in the selected projects (i.e. Poland) or represented with a lower funding level than would have been available for RURAGRI (particularly Denmark, Latvia and Turkey). Nevertheless the contents of the five finally selected projects and the partners involved as well as the distribution of requested budget addresses the potential of the RURAGRI Call to a very high degree.

E. The fifth step was to manage the further call process, from the online submission of proposals to the international evaluation process, selection of projects and the finalisation of the individual grants by the respective national funding organisations. As a result of the RURAGRI Call 5, jointly funded collaborative research projects started their work in August or September 2013 (Deliverable D5.2). These five projects are MERIT (coordinated by Austria), MULTAGRI (coordinated by Sweden), RETHINK (coordinated by Germany), TASTE (coordinated by France) TRUSTEE (coordinated by France).



These projects were presented in a public conference the ERA-Net in Brussels (24th Sept 2013). The objectives and research questions of the project proposals are given below. Progress of the projects can be followed via their individual websites. The RURAGRI website will allow easy access to all five projects by offering links to the individual websites as well as offering public intermediate reports.

At the moment project flyers are available for all five projects on the RURAGRI website (<https://www.ruragri-era.net/results-call>). Three projects have set up individual websites. The summaries of the five projects as well as the address of their individual websites (if already available) are given below.

MERIT (<http://www.umweltbuero-klagenfurt.at/merit/index.php>):

The MERIT project team, coordinated by Daniel Bogner of Umweltbüro GmbH in Austria, consists of well established research organisations from Germany, Austria, France, Switzerland and Italy. Additionally a Slovenian partner as observer and a Stakeholder/User Forum join the consortium. The team will exchange knowledge and examine a specific topic of mountain farming on socio-economic, ecological and governmental basis.

Research focus is the innovative system of outcome orientated land management within the frame of agro-environmental programmes (Governance). MERIT will investigate the feasibility of this system to generate sustainable income for mountain farms and hence its effects on rural development. The basic idea of outcome orientated land management is agreeing with farmers on the qualities and quantities in dealing with ecosystem services (Diversity). Thus agro-environmental payments could get strong aspects of a merit-based system which should encourage mountain farmers to carry on.

Results in MERIT will be gained through interdisciplinary research and trans-disciplinary approach involving farmers, governments, stakeholders and NGOs (User Forum). One case study region per partner with 5-10 pilot farms per case study region will be selected for investigation. It will include mapping of land use, habitats and relevant species (Ecosystem Services/Public Goods) and socio economic analysis with attention to gender topics (Socio-Economic Development). Results from pilot farms will be upscaled using the Sensitivity Model of Frederic Vester. Furthermore cost effective and innovative governance recommendations will be developed with the User Forum. Also the potential funds from private organisations (large supermarket chains) for providing/managing ecosystem services will be evaluated.

MERIT shall contribute to strengthening rural regions and provide best practice examples for sustainable land management (Land Use/Land Management) which can be transferred to other regions in Europe using appropriate spatial typologie.

MULTAGRI (<http://www.cec.lu.se/research/multagri>)

MULTAGRI consists of a multidisciplinary team of researchers from organisations in five European countries (SE, CH, DE, NL, FR) under the coordinator Henrik Smith, Lund University, Sweden.

MULTAGRI will investigate how governance of agricultural landscapes can promote rural development by harnessing landscape and biological diversity as assets to promote the provisioning of public goods and sustainable intensification of agricultural production. MULTAGRI will do this by:

- Determining empirically the spatial scale affecting a number of key farmland ecosystem services
- Determining synergies and trade-offs between production of public goods and generation of supporting/regulating ecosystem services.

- Valuing ecosystem services and public goods produced by European farms as a result of ecological intensification.
- Modelling how payments for public goods and ecosystem services will affect regional agricultural development.
- Assessing the multi-level governance system under which European farmers operate to understand how and why farmers choose to adopt specific management actions at farm and landscape scales.
- Evaluating how European agricultural policies can contribute to more sustainable farming systems with payments for public goods and ecosystem services.
- Disseminating project results effectively to both the scientific community and to stakeholders, particularly policy makers and farmers, but even the general public.

To this end MULTAGRI coordinates scientific expertise across disciplinary divides and across European rural landscapes, to promote cross-disciplinary interaction among natural and social scientists and science-policy dialogue through mutual transdisciplinary interaction with stakeholders. The end product will be a synthesis: Governing rural land use and landscapes to support sustainable development.

RETHINK (<http://www.rethink-net.eu/home.html>)

Coordinated by Karlheinz Knickel and project managed by Simone Schiller from Institute for Rural Development Research at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany, RETHINK is a collaboration between research partners in 14 European countries (DE, AT, BE, CH, DK, ES, FR, IE, IL, IT, LV, SE, TR).

The overall aim of the RETHINK project is to translate the concept of a knowledge-based society into a framework for agricultural and rural development. 14 major case studies will improve our understanding of the multiple mechanisms underlying rural prosperity and resilience. Each case is an expression of innovative development trajectories, highlighting potential synergies between farm modernization and sustainable rural development.

The core theme of RETHINK has emerged from the combination of six of the research topics listed in the 1st ERA-NET RURAGRI call. RETHINK connects the 'development' of agriculture and the wider societal and policy goal of vibrant rural areas. It explicitly recognizes the complexity of challenges, the diversity in situations, and the multidimensionality of strategies forward.

The project's aim was translated into core research questions, and these were used to select the 14 cases. The cases are diverse and have different boundaries. A joint analytical framework ensures the comparability of analyses and allows recommendations at European level. RETHINK combines an explorative perspective with an action-oriented policy and governance orientation: right from the start, decision-makers from the public and private sectors will be involved, shaping the implementation of the project.

The comparative analysis and synthesis will focus on issues that are particularly relevant for decision-makers. Factors that enable and encourage the creation of synergies will be identified; the influence of contextual factors, the role of agency and of institutional structures will be explored.

RETHINK is highly structured through a tight working schedule and well-defined deliverables. At the same time, it will be organised as an open research process connecting and integrating other work. RETHINK wants to facilitate an informed and productive interaction among industry, government, academic institutions, civil society organisations and farmers.

TASTE (<http://taste-smarteurope.eu> – available in October 2014)

TASTE is coordinated by André Torre and project managed by Frederic Wallet of INRA. This partnership brings together nine organisations from four European countries (FR, SE, IT, AT).

The TASTE project intends to shed light on the possible role played by rural areas in the regional dynamics of Europe. With regards to the orientations assigned by the Horizon 2020 strategy, TASTE aims to identify the main conditions for a Smart Rural Europe, given the profound changes in rural areas and the new regional and rural policies:

- Is there a possible smart development for European rural areas? - Which type of smart development (agriculture, industry, peri-urbanisation, tourism/leisure ...) can be privileged with regards to regional peculiarities?

The project intends to identify issues and forms of smart development of rural and periurban areas, given the diversity of local configurations. Two issues will be investigated: rural-urban relationship and territorial governance. TASTE examines the contribution of public policy and governance patterns as a consistent and innovative means of intervention to support smart development of rural areas, and refer to the new rural paradigm in its two meanings: researches about this subject and the new policies devoted to this development.

TASTE focuses on a set of countries (Austria, France, Italy and Sweden) and 15 case studies that allow for interesting and useful comparisons. TASTE started with collecting and analyzing data about land uses and social behaviors in countries and selected regions, in order to identify possible figures of land use conflicts and various functions of these areas (Year 1). Then, TASTE will make surveys and interviews at the local level and investigate the possible futures of rural areas, in relation with smart development diversity (agriculture, business, peri-urban extension...) (Year 2). TASTE will finally provide local stakeholders and policy makers with dedicated tools, in order to transfer scientific knowledge to the managers of the European rural and peri-urban areas (Year 3). These tools are intended to contribute to a Smart, inclusive and diverse European Rural development. Through this, TASTE hopes to produce insight which will be relevant to policy on a regional, national and European level.

TRUSTEE (<http://www.trustee-project.eu/>)

TRUSTEE brings together 16 interdisciplinary teams from eight European countries (FR, DE, SE, IT, AT, LV, IE, ES). TRUSTEE is coordinated by Cécile Détang-Dessendre of UMR INRA-AgroSup Dijon in France.

The trade-off/synergy dilemma between economic development and ecosystem services is one of the major issues of sustainable rural development. The main research objective of TRUSTEE is to

disentangle the complex relationships between economic development and ecosystem services at different spatial scales and on a large European gradient of rural and rural/urban areas. The project implements an interdisciplinary approach bringing together economists, geographers, agronomists, and ecologists. Sub-objectives are: (i) analyse the multi-scaled determinants of economic development and ecosystem services; (ii) increase our understanding of how to achieve mutual benefits for economic development in rural areas and ecosystem services; (iii) identify and assess the governance mechanisms and policy instruments that enhance sustainable rural vitality; (iv) produce synergies among international researchers of varied disciplines and between researchers and various stakeholders at different governance scales. The work plan relies on seven work packages that involve a cross-cutting strategy linking analyses at various scales (Pan European, gradient of EU countries, local case studies). TRUSTEE will provide a first quantification of the many-to-many relationship between ecosystem services and economic development. It will also produce (i) a large scale inventory of the socioeconomic and policy drivers of ecosystem service sets (ii) a large scale assessment of unlocking ecosystem service potential for rural economic development and (iii) a first internalization of ecosystem services in models of economic development. TRUSTEE will also produce analytical tools incorporating scenarios and policy instruments for the assessment of ecosystem services and their impact on rural development. Last, TRUSTEE will build capacity for interaction between a broad range of academics experts, stakeholders and policy makers.

- G. The sixth and final step was to develop a Follow-up strategy (*Deliverable D1.3*) as a basis for future joint work.

The topic of an integrated organization of “rural development” research had been raised before. Nevertheless, the aim of RURAGRI was established a network of programme owners and programme managers with the objective of fostering co-ordination and co-operation between national research programmes concerned with the interrelated issues of agricultural development, rural development and sustainable development.

RURAGRI has been running for 4.5 years. After an intensive period of joint work culminating in the launch of a joint call the ERA-Net terminated on the 31st March 2014. The aim of the follow-up strategy is therefore twofold. On the one hand outlines the options of cooperation among the ERA-Net partners themselves. There is a mutual understanding that the future cooperation can be based on two aspects: (i) the supervision of the ongoing, jointly funded projects that will terminate in 2016 and (ii) continuing collaboration within the existing network with different options regarding the intensity of this collaboration. On the other hand, the follow-up strategy outlines how the jointly achieved results will be accessible to the public in the future.

The increasing interest and uptake of research themes related to rural development issues was revealed in the analysis of relevant research activities that was undertaken as part of the RURAGRI work programme. A wide range of topics are included in European research activities. This is reflected in the stronger commitment for targeted research on rural issues in the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020. The scoping activities undertaken as part of the RURAGRI work programme also established that, beyond the EU’s Framework Programme activities, relevant research is commissioned by trans-national programmes, specific tenders, networking schemes, activities of international organizations etc. Moreover, the research field is

characterized by a multitude of national programmes with that focus on a wide range of issues pertinent to sustainable agricultural and rural development.

At the close of the RURAGRI network an assessment of the collaboration so far and the need for future collaboration was discussed. Awareness for the need of continued cooperation is high among the RURAGRI partners and especially high among the group of countries funding the RURAGRI call. This can be seen in the assessment of the RURAGRI Call as a first step of collaboration and an important start to continuing cooperation activities.

The administration and accompanying analysis of the RURAGRI projects will be an important task for RURAGRI partners, even if the formal network period ended in March 2014. The RURAGRI funded projects will last until 2016 so a continuing reporting and monitoring of the research progress and the observation of projects is required. In this regard, all involved RURAGRI countries will have to follow the projects' work. The coordinators' funding organization will be involved in the periodic information and discussion of interim reports and scientific findings. Periodic meetings on the realization of projects' tasks and an exchange of relevant experiences and research results are planned among the coordinators, the Call Secretariat, the RURAGRI coordinator and interested RURAGRI partners. This RURAGRI collaboration is intended to be supported by the Call Secretariat and will last until the finalization of the projects. It is planned that after submitting the final reports an international conference on the thematic focus of RURAGRI will be organized which will be open to the public scientific research community and relevant stakeholders. Principles of the future cooperation among funders beyond the RURAGRI project itself are also laid down in the "Call Framework & Principles" document which was signed by the funding parties before the launch of the RURAGRI call.

It is strongly intended to further maintain the RURAGRI homepage www.ruragri-era.net. This will guarantee that the results achieved by the ERA-Net will be accessible to the public. Furthermore, the website will offer relevant information about the progress of the projects. The website will serve as a single entry point to direct interested parties to the individual websites of the five RURAGRI funded projects. Furthermore, RURAGRI aims to publish comprehensive annual progress reports about each of the five projects. The summary reports of the collaborative projects should be available in English. The reports will provide an overview of the progress of the project and contribute to the dissemination of the results of the jointly funded projects. It is also intended to announce public events, workshops or conferences of the five RURAGRI funded projects on the website. These communication initiatives will ensure that relevant information is easily accessible to the public, the scientific community and policy stakeholders at EU, national and regional levels.

Ongoing collaboration amongst the projects is important as collaborative learning from their different approaches will be a lasting impact of the RURAGRI funded projects in addition to supporting their own dissemination activities. The Austrian partner responsible for the Call and the German partner responsible for the website will continue to close work together on this issue to enable the timely and accurate publication of progress reports and events.

The Coordinator of RURAGRI, as well as other RURAGRI partners, is a member of SCAR. The Coordinator will continue to report the progress of the RURAGRI funded projects to SCAR. The Coordinator will also continue to ensure relevant information, including the results of funded projects and dissemination activities arising from RURAGRI, are provided to the FACCE-JPI and the PLATFORM ERA-Net. RURAGRI has the potential to support JPI FACCE through its

collaborative effort on rural development issues in relation to global challenges as food security and climate change.

Both the Strategic Research Agenda and the analysis of spatial typologies regarding their usage for targeted research questions at an EU level, remain valuable sources of information when scoping future research in a variable geometry. Since these results are fully available through the public domain of the RURAGRI website, they are open for use by any third party.

- **The potential impact (including the socio-economic impact and the wider societal implications of the project so far) and the main dissemination activities and exploitation of results**

RURAGRI was an ERA-Net consisting of programme owners and programme managers. The main target of the ERA-Net was to contribute to overcoming the fragmentation of European research in the interdisciplinary areas of sustainable agriculture and sustainable rural development. Two major milestones can be identified for RURAGRI: first, the development of a joint Strategic Research Agenda for these cross-cutting areas and secondly, based on this SRA, the launch of a transnational Call.

As a basis for the development of the SRA, an analysis of relevant research activities of the RURAGRI programme owners was performed and confirmed the increasing interest and uptake of research themes related to rural development. This analysis was summed up in a synthesis report of the which was published in 2011 and is available in the public area under the website (<https://www.ruragri-era.net/results>). The scoping activities undertaken as part of the RURAGRI work programme also established that, beyond the EU's Framework Programme activities, relevant research is commissioned by trans-national programmes, specific tenders, networking schemes, activities of international organizations etc. Moreover, the research field is characterized by a multitude of national programmes with that focus on a wide range of issues pertinent to sustainable agricultural and rural development. This mapping activity had a major influence in developing the SRA. Though the RURAGRI partners are very much aware that such a report only shows the situation for a specific period and might be outdated fairly soon, it can still be used to get an overview about the funding activities of RURAGRI partners.

According to the Lisbon Strategy, the European Union aims to become a dynamic and competitive knowledge-based economy capable of sustainable economic growth that will support more and better jobs, greater social, economic and territorial cohesion whilst simultaneously maintaining the environment. These objectives of economic and social cohesion became increasingly pertinent within the context of EU enlargement. This process, which enhanced the EU's wealth of human, economic and natural resources, has also led to increased territorial diversity within the Union. Territorial diversity is reflected in national, regional and local differences in social, economic and environmental conditions, which influence the potential for development. RURAGRI aimed, through enhanced cooperation between 20 partner countries and greater coordination of their national research programmes, to better understand the processes shaping interactions between agricultural production, other rural land uses and the broader rural economy. This goal also reflects the increasing orientation of agriculture policy towards improving ecological practices and the provision of public goods, supporting the economic viability of rural areas and contributing to sustainable development. This approach, adopted by SRA of the Network, recognises the diversity of

rural areas in Europe in terms of their opportunities, challenges and potential. This perspective also accepts that the economic and social dynamics of rural areas are increasingly influenced by interrelations between places, particularly those linking urban and rural areas. The aim, objectives and approach developed by RURAGRI was framed by and is believed to contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy goals of smart, green and inclusive growth. Greater cooperation between partners will result in smart targeting of key issues confronting different types of rural areas. Enhanced coordination between national research programmes will identify critical knowledge gaps and foster the development of transdisciplinary approaches that are fundamental if the multi-dimensional challenges of sustainable development are to be successfully overcome. Finally, by recognising the territorial embedded nature of social, economic and ecological linkages implicit in agricultural practices and other land uses RURAGRI seeks to strengthen integrated development within and between regions, both rural and urban, and hence contribute to territorial cohesion.

One of the major activities of RURAGRI was therefore the development of the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA). The SRA specifically acknowledged aspects and the interlinkages of regional development, agricultural research, land use and land management, ecosystem services and public goods, socio-economic development, rural-urban relationships and governance aspects while explicitly acknowledging the diversity of European regions.

The RURAGRI Call could only cover some aspects in the thematic scope and cross-cutting issues of the SRA. RURAGRI partners are convinced that the SRA shows the necessity and significance of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research. Since the SRA is publicly available, the Commission as well as other national and regional programme owners throughout Europe are invited to use the SRA as a source of inspiration to develop new calls. RURAGRI expects that aspects of the SRA will be used to foster transnational research in the area of rural and regional sustainable development.

Both the SRA and the analysis of spatial typologies regarding their usage for targeted research questions at an EU level remain valuable sources of information when scoping future research in a variable geometry. Since these results are fully available through the public domain of the RURAGRI website, they are open for use by any third party.

The five RURAGRI funded projects are believed to contribute to the further development of sustainable rural and regional development. This includes agricultural development as well as other forms of economic activities, governance aspects and rural-urban relationships. The projects are considered to deliver a major contribution for policy makers on the European, national and regional level. Due to the high involvement of stakeholders in the project governance issues are of high importance.

Obviously, research results will be used by the programme owners according to their national research strategies. Further to this approach, scientists, policy makers, stakeholders and the general public are invited to follow the course of the five projects. RURAGRI aims to publish comprehensive progress reports for each of these projects. The reports will provide an overview of the progress of the project and contribute to the dissemination of the results of the jointly funded projects. It is also intended to announce public events, workshops or conferences of the five RURAGRI funded projects on the website. These communication initiatives will ensure that relevant information is easily accessible to the public, the scientific community, policymakers and stakeholders at EU, national and regional levels.

The Coordinator of RURAGRI, as well as other RURAGRI partners, is member of SCAR, which was the major reason for launching such an ERA_net in the 7th FP. The Coordinator will continue to report the progress of the RURAGRI funded projects to SCAR. The Coordinator will also continue to ensure relevant information, including the results of funded projects and dissemination activities arising from RURAGRI, are provided to the FACCE-JPI and the PLATFORM ERA-Net. RURAGRI has the potential to support JPI FACCE through its collaborative effort on rural development issues in relation to global challenges as food security and climate change.

On the national levels a broad variety of activities, namely conferences, workshops, websites and publications, have been executed to promote the dissemination of RURAGRI results.

The address of the project public website, if applicable as well as relevant contact details

Project Public Website: <https://www.ruragri-era.net/>

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Use and dissemination of foreground

Section A (public)

RURAGRI was an ERA-Net consisting of programme owners and programme managers. As such, scientific work itself was not at the core of the project. The target was to **contribute to overcoming the fragmentation of European research in this area and launch jointly funded projects**. Therefore, scientific (peer reviewed) publications are an exception for this project.

TEMPLATE A1: LIST OF SCIENTIFIC (PEER REVIEWED) PUBLICATIONS, STARTING WITH THE MOST IMPORTANT ONES										
NO.	Title	Main author	Title of the periodical or the series	Number, date or frequency	Publisher	Place of publication	Year of publication	Relevant pages	Permanent identifiers ¹³ (if available)	Is/Will open access ¹⁴ provided to this publication?
1	Territorial cohesion: implications for agriculture policy in the EU	David MERE DITH	Tresea rch		Teagasc	Carlow	2011	34-35		yes
2	Shaping rural development research in Europe: acknowledging the interrelationships between agriculture, regional and ecological development. An enhanced research strategy supported by the ERA-NET RURAGRI	Thoma s DAX	Studies in Agricu ltural Econo mics	Vol 116, Nr 2	Agrárgazdasá gi Kutató Intézet Research Institute of Agricultural Economics,	Budapest	2014	59-66		yes

¹³ A permanent identifier should be a persistent link to the published version full text if open access or abstract if article is pay per view) or to the final manuscript accepted for publication (link to article in repository).

¹⁴ Open Access is defined as free of charge access for anyone via Internet. Please answer "yes" if the open access to the publication is already established and also if the embargo period for open access is not yet over but you intend to establish open access afterwards.

TEMPLATE A2: LIST OF DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

NO.	Type of activities¹⁵	Main leader	Title	Date	Place	Type of audience¹⁶	Size of audience	Countries addressed
1	Conference	INRA	Sweden's EU Conference "Rural Areas Shaping the future, Rural Future 09", Session B: Opportunities for rural economies in a changing climate, Uppsala (Sweden)	28-29/10/09	Uppsala (SE)	Funding bodies, european stakeholders	350	European countries
2	Seminar	INRA	Comité de direction du département Environnements et Sociétés, CIRAD	05/11/09	Montpellier (FR)	Scientists, funding bodies	30	France
3	Website	MIPAAF	Azioni ERANET	Since 2009	http://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/3916	General Public		Italy
4	Website	JÜLICH	RURAGRI ERA-Net	Since 2009	https://www.ruragri-era.net/	Scientists, european stakeholders, general public		EU+AC
5	Website	BMBF	Facing sustainability: New Relationships Between Rural Areas and Agriculture in Europe (RURAGRI)	Since 2009	http://www.fonda.de/en/9891 and http://www.fonda.de/de/9891	Scientists, Stakeholders		Germany + International
6	Publication	FOAG	Short communication in Agarforschung Schweiz / Recherche Agronomique Suisse - Neues ERA-Net RURAGRI gegründet / Lancement du nouvel ERA-Net RURAGRI	03/10	Switzerland	Scientists, Extensionists, Farmers		Switzerland
7	Seminar	INRA	The Role of Agriculture and Food Sector in Denmark. International inspiration seminar: Cases, theories and potentials on Regional Development	9-10/03/10	Nyborg (DK)	Scientists, funding bodies	30	Denmark
8	Seminar	INRA	Agricultural Leadership of Tomorrow Missouri (A LOT) International Travel Seminar, INRA Seminar	12/07/10	Paris (FR)	American funding bodies	20	USA, France

9	Conference	INRA	ERANET ARIMNET Stakeholders conference	28-29/10/10	Universitat Balears Palma de Majorque (ES)	European stakeholders	200	European and others mediterranean countries
10	Meeting	GDAR	Knowledge sharing after return from abroad	29/12/10	Ankara (TR)	Scientists, Agricultural engineers	40	Turkey
11	Publication	LAS	Participation of Latvian Academy of Sciences in ERA-Net project "Ruragri	01/2011	Riga (LV)	Association of Latvian Scientists		Latvia
12	Workshop	INRA	Alliance nationale de recherche pour l'environnement (AllEnvi). Groupe Thématique 1	07/04/11	Paris (FR)	French scientists	15	France
13	Seminar	INRA	Journées scientifiques INRA department SAD	13-14/09/11	Lyon (FR)	French scientists	70	France
14	Workshop	INRA	FACCE JPI-ERA-NETs Brainstorming Workshop	05/10/11	Paris (FR)	European Funding bodies	35	European countries
15	Conference	INRA	Evaluating Decentralized Policies. PRIMA Final Conference	28/10/11	Clermont-Ferrand (FR)	European scientists	60	European countries
16	Seminar	INRA	Core Organic meeting - Role of organic agriculture in rural development from RURAGRI perspectives. Joint research needs and possibilities for future collaboration	30/11/11	Brussels (BE)	Funding Bodies	35	European countries
17	Publication	LAS	Topicalities of ERA-NET „Ruragri“ project	12/2011	Riga (LV)	Association of Latvian Scientists		Latvia
18	Seminar	INRA	PLATFORM Kick-off meeting	01-02/02/12	The Hague (NL)	Funding Bodies	50	European countries
19	Meeting	GDAR	Research programme evaluation meeting	05/03/12	Antalya (TR)	Scientists, Representatives of universities and private sector	60	Turkye
20	Seminar	INRA	INRA – ZALF Seminar	22-23/03/12	Paris (FR)		25	France, Germany

21	Conference	TEAGASC	The utility of RURAGRI	02/06/12	ST Particks (IR)	Scientists	250	European countries
22	Workshop	INRA	PLATFORM 1st annual workshop	26-27/06/12	Copenhagen (DK)	Funding Bodies	40	European countries
23	Conference	FOAG	Conference forum.landschaft - Speakers Corner Presentation of RURAGRI and call	08/05/12	Bern (CH)	Funding bodies, Administration, Practice	60	Switzerland
24	Conference	INRA	Agro-Ecological Innovation Workshop – TP Organics	11/07/12	Brussels (BE)	Funding Bodies	70	European countries
25	Conference	INRA	Institut Michel Serres, ENS Lyon, Sustainable food consumption and production in a resource-constrained world	27-28/09/12	Lyon (FR)	International scientists and students	60	European countries
26	Seminar	LAS	University of Riga - Actual calls of the 7 th FP and ERA-Nest	09/10/12	Riga (LV)	Scientists, SMEs, Academia	60	Latvia
27	Seminar	LNV	Information event transnational call RURAGRI	18/10/12	Utrecht (NL)	Scientists	25	The Netherlands
28	Publication	BMBF	National Call in the scope of the RURAGRI Call	20/09/12	Bonn (DE)	Scientists, Stakeholders		Germany
29	Information day	LAS	University of Riga – Open Day’s Event for 7 th FP	08/11/12	Riga (LV)	Scientists, SMEs, Academia	50	Latvia
30	Seminar	INRA	ANR-SERENA Project - Séminaire Mesures Agri-Environnementales et Paiements pour Services Environnementaux. Quelle gestion des services écosystémiques en agriculture?‘‘	16/11/12	Montpellier (FR)	International scientists	35	European and International countries
31	Seminar	INRA	PLATFORM Project meeting	28/02/13	Dublin (IR)	Funding Bodies	40	European countries
32	Workshop	INRA	PLATFORM 2nd annual workshop	18-19/04/13	Paris (FR)	Funding Bodies	40	European countries
33	Conference	INIA	European Programmes	29/05/13	Madrid (ES)	Scientists	200	Spain
34	Conference	INRA	Institut Michel Serres, ENS Lyon, Bio-resources & Biodiversity. The EU geopolitics of Natural Resources	13/06/13	Lyon (FR)	International scientists and students	30	European countries
35	Workshop	INRA	PLATFORM Third annual workshop	13-14/02/14	Leiden (NL)	Funding Bodies	40	European countries

36	Seminar	INRA	Atelier de synthèse du programme ANR SERENA	14-16/05/13	Montpellier (FR)	International scientists and students	45	International countries
37	Publication	INRA	European Commission (DG R&I) - Bioeconomy ERA-NET Actions. European Research Area Networks of the 6th and 7th Framework Programmes	2014		Funding Bodies, Scientists, Research Organisations		European and International countries
38	Presentation	INIA	Plantwise initiative	06/03/14	Madrid (ES)	Managers	6	Spain
39	Conference	BMLFUW	Closing conference of the RURAGRI ERA-Net Kick-Off Meeting of RURAGRI funded projects	24/09/2013	Brussels (BE)	Funding bodies, Scientists, EU, Stakeholders	50	European countries
40	Publication	INRA & BMLFUW	Research Media International Innovation Disseminating science, research and technology – Issue 118	11/13		Diverse		European countries
41	Publication	LAS	Results of ERA-Net project „Ruragri“ call	12/2013	Riga (LV)	Association of Latvian Scientists		Latvia
42	Conference	UPM - GESPLAN	Conference WCES 2014 -Social Learning in Innovation for Resilience of a territory through University-Company links	02/14	Online	Scientists/specialised	100	Spain, Malta
43	Conference	UPM - GESPLAN	Innovation and Social Learning in Agricultural Systems Case Study: Murcia, Spain	05/14	Berlin (DE)	Scientists	200	Spain, Germany
44	Competition	RETHINK (RURAGRI Project)	RETHINK has been selected as one of the most innovative, forward-looking projects in the annual competition "Landmarks in the Land of Ideas". http://www.rethink-net.eu/news/artikel/rethink-honoured-as-one-of-the-most-innovative-forward-looking-projects-in-germany.html	07/07/14	Frankfurt/Main (DE)	Scientists, Stakeholders		Germany
45	Conference	UPM - GESPLAN	Agricultural trade and prosperity: a WWP conceptual proposal. (El comercio agrícola y la prosperidad: una propuesta conceptual desde el modelo Working With People)	07/14	Spain	Engineers, scientists	400	Spain

46	Conference	UPM - GESPLAN	Resilience, rural development and sustainable management: a Working With People Approach	07/14	Spain	Engineers, scientists	400	Spain
47	Conference	TRUSTEE (RURAGRI Project)	CAPRI Training Session 2014 in the Scope of TRUSTEE	9-10/09/14	Braunschweig (DE)	Scientists, market analysts, policy makers	30	European countries
48	Conference	BMBF	Status conference of the funding measurement “Sustainable land management – innovative solutions” with contributions of RURAGRI funded projects RETHINK and TRUSTEE	14-15/10/14	Berlin (DE)	Scientists, Stakeholders	250	Germany

¹⁵ A drop down list allows choosing the dissemination activity: publications, conferences, workshops, web, press releases, flyers, articles published in the popular press, videos, media briefings, presentations, exhibitions, thesis, interviews, films, TV clips, posters, Other.

¹⁶ A drop down list allows choosing the type of public: Scientific Community (higher education, Research), Industry, Civil Society, Policy makers, Medias ('multiple choices' is possible).